

CHAPTER NO. 832

HOUSE BILL NO. 1601

By Representative Lewis

Substituted for: Senate Bill No. 1097

By Senator Cooper

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 63, Chapter 22, Part 1, relative to professional counselors.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-22-101(b)(1), is amended by deleting the language "The Tennessee Association for Counseling and Development" and by substituting instead the language "The Tennessee Counseling Association".

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-22-101(c)(2), is amended by deleting the language "the Tennessee Association for Counseling and Development" and by substituting instead the language "the Tennessee Counseling Association".

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-22-117(a)(1), is amended by adding the following language as a new subdivision:

(C) Performing activities that may reasonably be construed to fall within the defined scope of practice of persons licensed under this chapter who are designated as mental health service providers as defined in Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-22-150(5), without being duly licensed hereunder.

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-22-117(b), is amended by deleting the language "licensed or certified as a professional counselor" and by substituting instead the language "licensed or certified as a professional counselor or designated as a mental health service provider under this chapter".

SECTION 5. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-22-117, is amended by adding the following language as two new subsections to be appropriately designated:

(_) The provisions of this part do not apply to the person if the person is preparing for the practice of professional counseling or the practice permitted to persons designated as a mental health service provider pursuant to this chapter under qualified supervision.

(_) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed as limiting the ministry, activities, or services of a rabbi, priest, minister of the gospel or others authorized by a regularly organized and functioning religious body in performing the ordinary duties or functions of the clergy; nor shall anything in this chapter apply to or be construed as limiting the activities or services of Christian Science practitioners. Nor shall any rabbi, priest, or minister who offers counseling services, even if fees are charged, be subject to the

limitations of this chapter, as long as they do not hold themselves out as certified or licensed professional counselors.

SECTION 6. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

PASSED: May 15, 2000

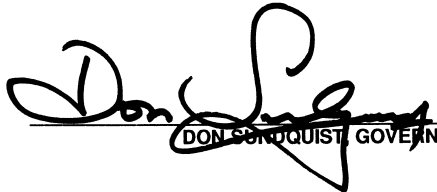


JIMMY RAIFEH, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



JOHN S. WILDER
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 24th day of May 2000



DON SUNDQUIST, GOVERNOR